

was situated above it, worked feverishly during the storm to prevent the dam from bursting, their efforts were futile.

The Johnstown Flood Memorial was dedicated in 1964. Today the park consists of 165 acres and receives over 126,000 visitors annually. It preserves the remains of the old South Fork Dam which was breached in the flood, as well as portions of the former Conemaugh Lake bed.

This bill would authorize the purchase or acquisition by NPS, from willing sellers, an additional approximately 14½ acres. This property holds certain related historic structures such as the "Moorhead Cottage" and the "Clubhouse." Both of these are significant to the story of the Johnstown Flood as they represent the life and role of club members both before and after the flood. The property offers a unique opportunity to use tangible resources to interpret the events that led to the Johnstown Flood, and the club members' response to the Flood.

These structures were built near the shore of Conemaugh Lake, by the South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club. In 1889, the Club had 61 members who were wealthy industrialists, bankers and merchants from Pittsburgh, including Andrew Carnegie, Henry Clay Frick and Andrew W. Mellon. The Clubhouse contained 47 rooms, where the majority of members stayed. The cottages did not have kitchens, so the Clubhouse was the focal point of the Club.

The Clubhouse is clearly among the most significant historical structures not only in the Johnstown Flood story but in our entire region. The 1889 South Fork Fishing & Hunting Club National Historical Society has done a tremendous job over the years in preserving this vital piece of history, but these dedicated volunteers can't be expected to finance the cost of needed repairs, maintenance and interpretive features. Our best alternative to preserve this vital history is to add these structures to the National Park Service.

The Johnstown Flood story continues to fascinate people even though the tragedy happened more than 100 years ago. There is such drama in the story of wealthy Pittsburgh industrialists who owned the poorly-maintained dam that collapsed, causing the worst man-made disaster in history by claiming 2,209 lives. Adding the Clubhouse and these other structures to the National Park will greatly enrich the interpretive potential of this site.

I would like to thank my Colleagues for their consideration of this bill. Thank you for your time.

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. POMBO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1521, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bills H.R. 1442, H.R. 1092, H.R. 1598, and H.R. 1521.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

AWARDING A CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL TO DR. DOROTHY HEIGHT IN RECOGNITION OF HER MANY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NATION

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1821) to award a congressional gold medal to Dr. Dorothy Height in recognition of her many contributions to the Nation.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1821

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. FINDINGS.

The Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Dr. Dorothy Irene Height was born March 24, 1912, to James Edward Height and Fannie (Borroughs) Height in Richmond, Virginia and raised in Rankin, Pennsylvania.

(2) Dr. Height is recognized as one of the preeminent social and civil rights activists of her time, particularly in the struggle for equality, social justice, and human rights for all peoples.

(3) Beginning as a civil rights advocate in the 1930s, she soon gained prominence through her tireless efforts to promote interracial schooling, to register and educate voters, and to increase the visibility and status of women in our society.

(4) She has labored to provide hope for inner-city children and their families, and she can claim responsibility for many of the advances made by women and African-Americans over the course of this century.

(5) Her public career spans over 65 years.

(6) Dr. Height was a valued consultant on human and civil rights issues to First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt and she encouraged President Eisenhower to desegregate the Nation's schools and President Johnson to appoint African-American women to sub-Cabinet posts.

(7) Dr. Height has been President of the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW) since 1957, a position to which she was appointed upon the retirement of Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, one of the most influential African-American women in United States history.

(8) The National Council of Negro Women is currently the umbrella organization for 250 local groups and 38 national groups engaged in economic development and women's issues.

(9) Under Dr. Height's leadership, the National Council of Negro Women implemented a number of new and innovative programs and initiatives, including the following:

(A) Operation Woman Power, a project to expand business ownership by women and to provide funds for vocational training.

(B) Leadership training for African-American women in the rural South.

(C) The Black Family Reunion, a nationwide annual gathering to encourage, renew and celebrate the concept of not only the Black family but all families.

(D) The Women's Center for Education and Career Advancement to empower minority women in nontraditional careers.

(E) The Bethune Museum and Archives, a museum devoted to African-American women's history.

(10) Dr. Height has been at the forefront of AIDS education, both nationally and internationally; under her direction, the National Council of Negro Women established offices in West Africa and South Africa and worked to improve the conditions of women in the developing world.

(11) Dr. Height has been central in the success of 2 other influential women's organizations, as follows:

(A) As president and executive board member of Delta Sigma Theta, Dr. Height left the sorority more efficient and globally focused with a centralized headquarters.

(B) Her work with the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) led to its integration and more active participation in the civil rights movement.

(12) As a member of the "Big Six" civil rights leaders with Whitney Young, A. Philip Randolph, Martin Luther King, Jr., James Farmer, and Roy Wilkins, Dr. Height was the only female at the table when the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and others made plans for the civil rights movement.

(13) Dr. Height is the recipient of many awards and accolades for her efforts on behalf of women's rights, including the following:

(A) The Spingarn Award, the NAACP's highest honor for civil rights contributions.

(B) The Presidential Medal of Freedom awarded by President Clinton.

(C) The John F. Kennedy Memorial Award from the National Council of Jewish Women.

(D) The Ministerial Interfaith Association Award for her contributions to interfaith, interracial, and ecumenical movements for over 30 years;

(E) The Lovejoy Award, the highest recognition by the Grand Lodge of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the World for outstanding contributions to human relations.

(F) The Ladies Home Journal Woman of the Year Award in recognition for her work for human rights.

(G) The William L. Dawson Award presented by the Congressional Black Caucus for decades of public service to people of color and particularly women.

(H) The Citizens Medal Award for distinguished service presented by President Reagan.

(I) The Franklin Delano Roosevelt Freedom Medal awarded by the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute.

(14) Dr. Dorothy Height has established a lasting legacy of public service that has been an invaluable contribution to the progress of this Nation.

SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.

(a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the presentation, on behalf of the Congress, to Dr. Dorothy Irene Height a gold medal of appropriate design in recognition of her many contributions to the Nation.

(b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For the purpose of the presentation referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the "Secretary") shall strike a gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary.

SEC. 3. DUPLICATE MEDALS.

Under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, the Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medals

struck under section 2 at a price sufficient to cover the costs of the medals, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses.

SEC. 4. NATIONAL MEDALS.

The medals struck under this Act are national medals for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code.

SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS; PROCEEDS OF SALE.

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is hereby authorized to be charged against the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund an amount not to exceed \$30,000 to pay for the cost of the medal authorized under section 2.

(b) PROCEEDS OF SALE.—Amounts received from the sale of duplicate bronze medals under section 3 shall be deposited in the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. KING) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. WATT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. KING).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous material on H.R. 1821, the legislation under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I rise in support of H.R. 1821, legislation introduced by the gentleman from California, that would award the Congressional Gold Medal, the highest civilian honor Congress can bestow, on the prominent civil rights activist Dorothy Height.

Dorothy Height has been one of the most influential leaders in the 20th century, and even now in the 21st century, fighting for racial and gender equality. Dedicating her entire life to breaking down the immense barriers that divide race and class, Ms. Height stands side by side with other civil rights heroes such as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Rosa Parks.

Dorothy Height experienced racial and gender discrimination from an early age and embarked on a lifelong effort to guarantee all Americans their inalienable right of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Mr. Speaker, the Founding Fathers promised freedom and equality. Ms. Height worked, and continues to work at the age of 91, to make them come true for everyone.

To bring those promises to fruition, Ms. Height began her activist career at the Young Women's Christian Association, the YWCA. Because of her efforts, the once-segregated organization now serves as a model of racial integration.

Mr. Speaker, Dorothy Height's contributions to the civil rights movement certainly did not stop at the YWCA. She was also an active member of the National Council of Negro Women, an

umbrella group for 240 local and 31 national organizations working for black women's rights. In 1957, she became president of the NCNW, and she worked closely with Dr. King in virtually every major civil rights event in the 1960s.

Mr. Speaker, the civil rights movement would hardly have been the same without Dorothy Height. She organized voter education drives in the North, and voter registration drives in the South. She helped plan the 1963 march on Washington, and led an effort to protect activists who ran freedom schools in Mississippi. For every civil rights effort, large or small, Dorothy Height was there.

However, Ms. Height's activism delved even further into the obstacles black Americans faced. She addressed important internal issues within the black community, and she will ever be remembered as the person who established the National Black Family Reunion Project to illustrate to current generations the achievements of their ancestors and the benefits of extended family.

Mr. Speaker, because of all her vital contributions to the improvement of American democracy, the time has come, in fact it is long overdue, for Congress to honor this remarkable woman. Dorothy Height has devoted her life to expanding the American Dream to every color, class, and gender. For her dedication, her deeds, and, most important, her dream, I am proud to stand in support of this legislation to award her the Congressional Gold Medal.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WATT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to first thank my colleague, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATSON), for introducing and being the lead sponsor of the bill which would award a Congressional Gold Medal to Dr. Dorothy Height.

I cannot think of a time that I have felt more humble to be in control of time and to pay tribute to a great individual. And I cannot think of anybody that is living today that deserves a high honor of this kind more than Dorothy Height. So it is a great pleasure for me to be here and to have been asked to control time on our behalf.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATSON), the original sponsor of the bill.

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time, and it is indeed a great honor to rise before this distinguished body as the original sponsor of H.R. 1821, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Dr. Dorothy Height.

I first want to thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. OXLEY) and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK) for their diligent work on this bill, as well as staffers Joe Pinder and Jaime Lizarraga.

Dr. Height, who turned 91 earlier this year, continues to have an active and distinguished career as a human rights activist and humanitarian. She is recognized as the preeminent social and civil rights activist of our time and is known as the grand dame of America's civil rights movement.

Mr. Speaker, I do not believe that there is any recipient of a Congressional Gold Medal whose career has been as long and as productive as Dr. Dorothy Height's. It spans almost three-quarters of a century, and Dorothy Height is still going strong into the 21st century.

As a young woman, at the age of 25, Dr. Height joined forces with Mary McLeod Bethune, founder of the National Council of Negro Women, in her quest for women's full and equal employment and education advancement. During her tenure with the legendary Mary McLeod Bethune, Dr. Height's career as a preeminent civil rights activist began to unfold as she tirelessly worked to prevent lynching, desegregate the armed forces, reform the criminal justice system, and create free access to public facilities.

That same year, Dr. Height began her work with the national Young Women's Christian Association of the USA. She rose quickly through several leadership positions and developed numerous programs to promote interracial and ecumenical education.

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Dr. Height is credited with developing strategies to ensure the success of the YWCA's mission of providing equal opportunity and facilities for women of all cultures, ethnicities and nationalities. Dr. Height is considered one of the major leaders of the civil rights movement of the 1960s. As one of the Big Six civil rights leaders, she was the only woman at the table when Dr. Martin Luther King and others made plans for the civil rights movement. Dr. Height was constantly inspiring others, from the poor to world leaders, to achieve at the highest level. As an adviser to Presidents through their First Ladies, Dr. Height has effected significant change in the lives of not only African American women, but all women and their loved ones. She counseled Eleanor Roosevelt and prodded President Eisenhower to desegregate the Nation's schools. And she pressed President Johnson to appoint black women to sub-Cabinet posts. Dr. Height's many achievements and her distinguished service to the Nation and the world has earned her over 50 awards and honors from local and State governments as well as the Federal Government. Some of them include the following, the John F. Kennedy Memorial Award from the National Council of Jewish Women; the Ministerial Interfaith Association Award; the Lovejoy Award, the highest recognition by the Elks of the World; the Ladies Home Journal "Woman of the Year" Award; the Congressional Black Caucus's William L. Dawson Award for decades of

public service; the Citizens Medal Award presented by President Reagan for her distinguished service to the Nation; the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Freedom Medal; and the Presidential Medal of Freedom Award presented by President Clinton.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor and humility that I proposed legislation awarding the Congressional Gold Medal to Dr. Height. The time is long past due to recognize and to pay tribute to the significant works of this American treasure.

Mr. WATT. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK), ranking member of the Committee on Financial Services.

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the willingness of the gentleman from North Carolina to take management of this bill to the floor and I want to join in thanking the gentlewoman from California for giving us the opportunity to honor this extraordinary woman, Dorothy Height.

No problem in the history of this country, in my judgment, comes close to the problem of race in terms of its importance and the need for us to respond. Having brought people against their will from Africa hundreds of years ago and having subjected them, first to slavery, and then to a rigid and degrading system of official segregation, and then to a very grudging and gradual retreat from that segregation system, this Nation has to confront what I think is the saddest part of our history, our treatment of people of African descent. I am pleased that we have made the progress that we have made. Although, anyone who thinks racism has been extirpated lives in a much too optimistic world, but we have made progress. It is for that reason that it is so important to honor Dorothy Height. She was born into a racist society. She was born into a society in which national legislation, passed by our predecessor Congresses, signed by Presidents, enforced by the United States Supreme Court, segregated on the basis of race. And everyone knows that "separate but equal" was never anything more than a cruel joke. Separation came because people believed in inequality. And Dorothy Height was born not only into that racist system, she was born as a woman at a time when society was far less willing to acknowledge the equality of women in the social and political sphere. Facing that double handicap, she set out to help heal this society, to cure the ills that have troubled us. Of course, she did not succeed altogether, but no one that I know of has done more over this long and distinguished lifetime of hers to fight against those evils, the evils of prejudice, of segregation, of denying people the ability to live up to their full potential.

One of the great honors of my life is that as I came along to join this body and became actively involved as a member of the Committee on the Judi-

ciary and various civil rights fights, I got the chance to know her, to work with her and to be inspired by her. I am particularly proud, Mr. Speaker, that one of the latter things I did with Ms. Height as she continues her efforts was to appear with her in her capacity as chair of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, one of the great institutions of our time and with the executive director, the very distinguished and able Wade Henderson as they announced their endorsement of legislation that would ban discrimination based on sexual orientation, because I have found that people who have been unfairly discriminated against, based on one characteristic of themselves, understand why it is unfair to do that elsewhere, and it is an example of the greatness of Dorothy Height, that later in her life, well past her 80th birthday, she understood the importance not of abandoning the fight for racial fairness which she continues, but of taking on, also, the newer fight for opposing discrimination based on sexual orientation.

I believe the great heroes of this society are those who have undergone whatever was necessary to help us live up to the wonderful ideals of that Constitution of 1787, and that was a Constitution which stated an ideal better than the society lived up to the reality. Realizing those ideals has been the most important part of our Nation's history and no one, literally no one, has played a more important part in that, no one has been tougher and more dedicated and more loving at the same time in her insistence that the country live up to its own best ideals than Dorothy Height. I thank the gentlewoman from California for giving us a chance to acknowledge that.

Mr. WATT. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Indiana (Ms. CARSON).

Ms. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, certainly I would add my praise and congratulations to the honorable gentlewoman from California for bringing this incredible, this very vital and very necessary and much deserved issue before the United States Congress, and that is to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the Honorable Dorothy Height. Dorothy Height, the president of the National Council of Negro Women, succeeded in that position from an icon of this world, that was Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, who created the National Council of Negro Women, who was adviser to several Presidents and so was Dorothy Height. It is not a coincidence, I do not believe, that Dorothy's last name is Height, because she has scaled great heights in this country to enable people of color to get their rightful place at the tables of justice and equal opportunity. There are countless branches of the National Council of Negro Women around the country and around the world and their emphasis is phenomenal. It is very scriptural in terms of doing for these, the very least of these. In Indianapolis,

we have a Mental Health Gift Lift which allows the community to come together to give gifts to those who are mentally challenged.

Mary McLeod Bethune, and then Dr. Height, talks about love, leaving love as a testament. Dorothy Height is an individual that I feel very blessed that I am able to touch her hand in my lifetime. She was there when we conferred a medal on Rosa Parks. She was a very generous and very giving person, a very inspirational individual, very visionary individual in terms of how we could move this country forward in the right way. The gentleman from Massachusetts talked about her being there in the forefront so that we could ban injustices against people of certain sexual orientations. That was a very bold move on her part, but it was a very right move on her part. And that is what Dorothy Height did. She lived not just because, she lives for a cause. There are not too many people that I know who are more deserving of the Congressional Gold Medal, the highest honor that this House could convey on an individual, than Dorothy Height.

I want to commend the gentlewoman from California for bringing this matter to the House. It is much deserved. It is long overdue. I felt compelled to come here and support her in this manner, for doing her good work, commending somebody for their good work.

Mr. WATT. Mr. Speaker, I yield for the purpose of making a unanimous consent request to the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS).

(Mr. LANTOS asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I want to commend my good friend for his very important piece of legislation.

Mr. WATT. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. I thank the distinguished gentleman from North Carolina for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support this legislation that honors and salutes a giant and to acknowledge my good friend the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATSON) for her leadership and insight on an effort long overdue.

We are blessed to have the Dr. Dorothy Height, Dr. Dorothy Irene Height, born on March 24, 1912, in Richmond, Virginia and raised in Rankin, Pennsylvania. Many of us have had the opportunity to study Dr. Height's history and contributions simply because she has given us the greater part of her life in service. And so we could tell you that she was a social justice activist, a civil rights activist, a servant of the people, one who served a number of Presidents, humanitarian, American, a hero, a great patriot. All of those are words without motion, unless you get to know Dr. Dorothy Height. You will then be captured by her charm, her energy, her insight, her intellect and her compassion. I am honored to have had

the opportunity among others to be able to share in her vision. It is wonderful to know that she can speak eloquently about Mary McLeod Bethune, that she can speak to the concept of ownership amongst African American people, having led the effort to put the first African American-owned building on Pennsylvania Avenue just two blocks away from the White House. You can see that she believes in women's rights, and she acts upon women's rights. She believes in the empowerment of minorities, and she acts upon the empowerment of minorities. She is what has been called a glorious and wonderful champion of the great leadership that we need and hope to have in the United States of America.

And so, Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to be here today because our words are simply that, simple words, mere words. But if our presence on the floor today commemorates the honor that is being given to Dr. Dorothy Height, the leadership of the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATSON), we are here then to be part of the following that salutes this great leader and this great patriot. Dr. Height, we love you.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in unwavering support of H.R. 1821. Dorothy Height's lifetime of achievement measures the liberation of Black America, the advance of women's rights and a determined effort to lift the poor and the powerless into the Halls of Power and influence in our nation.

Dorothy Height began her career as a staff member of the YWCA in New York City, becoming director of the Center for Racial Justice. She became a volunteer with the National Council of Negro Women, when she worked with NCNW founder Mary McLeod Bethune.

When Bethune died, Height became president, a position she continues to hold. NCNW, an organization of national organizations and community sections with outreach to four million women, develops model national and international community-based programs, sent scores of women to help in the Freedom Schools of the civil rights movement, and spearheaded voter registration drives. Height's collaborative leadership style brings together people of different cultures for mutual benefit.

Because of Dorothy Height's commitment to the Black family, she has hosted since 1986 the Black Family Reunion Celebration in which almost 10 million have participated.

Born in Richmond, Virginia, she moved with her parents to Ranklin, Pennsylvania at an early age. Winner of a scholarship for her exceptional oratorical skills, she entered New York University where she earned the Bachelor and Master degrees in four years.

While working as a caseworker for the welfare department in New York, Dr. Height joined the NCNW in 1937 and her career as a pioneer in civil rights activities began to unfold. She served on the national staff of the YWCA of USA from 1944 to 1977 where she was active in developing its leadership training and interracial and ecumenical education programs. In 1965 she inaugurated the Center for Racial Justice which is still a major initiative of the National YWCA. She served as the 10th national president of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. from 1946 to 1957 before becoming president of the NCNW in 1958.

Working closely with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Roy Wilkins, Whitney Young, A. Philip Randolph and others, Dr. Height participated in virtually all major civil and human rights events in the 1950's and 1960's. For her tireless efforts on behalf of the less fortunate, President Ronald Reagan presented her the Citizens Medal Award for distinguished service to the country in 1989.

Dr. Height is known for her extensive international and developmental education work. She initiated the sole African American private voluntary organization working in Africa in 1975, building on the success of NCNW's assignments in Asia, Africa, Europe, and South America.

In three decades of national leadership, she has served on major policy-making bodies affecting women, social welfare, economic development, and civil and human rights, and has received numerous appointments and awards.

As president of NCNW, Dorothy Irene Height has an outstanding record of accomplishments. As a self-help advocate, she has been instrumental in the initiation of NCNW sponsored food, child care, housing and career educational programs that embody the principles of self-reliance. As a promoter of Black family life she conceived and organized the Black Family Reunion Celebration in 1986 to reinforce the historic strengths and traditional values of the African American Family. Now in its ninth year, this multi-city cultural event has attracted some 11.5 million people.

Dr. Dorothy I. Height's lifetime of achievement measures the liberation of Black America, the brilliant advance of women's rights, and the most determined effort to lift up the poor and the powerless.

Still fighting, pushing, and advocating, Dr. Dorothy Height—mother, wife, grandmother, great-grandmother, doctor, civil/human rights activist, and freedom fighter continues unrelentingly to serve our country in the health and most meaningfully—the civic arena at the age of 91.

Dr. Height is a commendable and formidable woman. She has wholeheartedly devoted her life to public service, struggling for social justice, the eradication and education of HIV/AIDS, unprivileged children, equal rights, voting rights, women's rights, and education opportunities for all citizens irrespective of color, ethnicity, gender, disability, sexuality and other markers of difference.

She was the leading lady in the civil rights movement, sitting as the only female on the planning table with Whitney Young, Dr. Martin Luther King, James Farmer, A. Phillip Randolph, and Roy Wilkins. She has been and continues to be emulated internationally. Needless to say, Dr. Height is a jewel in the African American community and an influential and exemplary leader in the country.

Many examples of her work stand out in our minds. To give just one—under her leadership of the National Negro Women's Council, she introduced and implemented many initiatives and programs geared towards the betterment of the Afro-American community, the advancement of minority women in all sectors of society, most notably, in business and non-traditional careers. Serving in all capacities imaginable, she has served distinguishably.

Dream giver and earth shaker, Dr. Dorothy Height has followed and expanded on the original purpose of the National Council of

Negro Women, giving new meaning, new courage and pride to women, youth and families everywhere. While most individuals resolve to retirement at her current age, Dr. Dorothy Height continues to extend and commit herself beyond measures; she has done so not for recognition or national esteem, but as a labor of love. For the above-mentioned reasons, it is our rightful duty to honor her in recognition of her many priceless contributions to the civic growth of this nation and the beautiful legacy she will leave by awarding her a congressional gold medal.

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Mr. WATT. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON).

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I think it bears saying that Dorothy Height, who is a District resident, although she lived for many years in New York, is indeed a great American leader among us and one of a kind. There is no comparable leader in American life today because she was a guiding light. She is about 90 years old, still going as strong as any of us on this floor. She was a guiding light in the achievements we have made thus far for equal rights in America today. At the 40th anniversary on the March on Washington we just celebrated on August 23, some of us noted that Dorothy Height had the same position. She was president of the National Council of Negro Women then, but she was not included in the leaders that put on the march because she was a woman, and yet this is a woman who has stood for the rights of people of color and women equally. She is unique in the sense that when particularly black people were confused about whether one could be equally for women and for African Americans, she was a leader to say there is no such bifurcation in human rights.

Mr. WATT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, my mother used to say, and she was a wise person, that we should honor people while we can or give them their flowers while they can still smell them, and Dorothy Height is still among us. So it is a great pleasure to be able to pay tribute to her while she can still hear the words and read the words and understand the words, and she has been with us through so many decades of service through a time when she has had substantial impact on our history, through contact with extraordinary people. In her recent autobiography called "Open Wide the Freedom Gates," she describes contacts with W.E.B. DuBois; Marcus Garvey; Eleanor Roosevelt; Mary McLeod Bethune; Adam Clayton Powell, Sr.; Langston Hughes; W.C. Handy; and a host of other people. And she describes her involvement with the March on Washington as the only female member who was kind of in the back room in the organizing committee associated with that march.

I think she has contributed so much, and more recently her organization of

the Black Family Reunion, with which my son was associated and got to know her. Every time I see Dr. Dorothy Height now, she never asks how I am doing. She is always asking about my son. So it is just a great pleasure to pay tribute to and support the Congressional Gold Medal for such a wonderful heroine.

There is no living person today who deserves this congressional merit more than Dorothy Height. It is just a tremendous honor to be able to pay tribute to her, and I encourage my colleagues to support this bill.

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD. Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor for me to speak in favor of H.R. 1821 to award Dr. Dorothy Height the Congressional Gold Medal. During the 107th session, I introduced H. Res. 55 declaring a day acknowledging all of Dr. Height's stellar achievements, and this legislation resulted in over one hundred mayors across this country submitting proclamations to Dr. Height. We cannot celebrate Dr. Height and her illustrious accomplishments enough. By awarding her the Congressional Gold Medal, we are noting a life well lived by a dynamic woman who at one time simultaneously held leadership positions with the YWCA, the National Council of Negro Women and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. Dr. Height became known as the only woman among the "big six" group of civil rights leaders including Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Roy Wilkins, Whitney Young and A. Phillip Randolph.

Always a pioneer on behalf of women's and civil rights overall, Dr. Height became as well known abroad as she is here in the United States for her efforts to build coalitions among women internationally. We revere Dr. Height for advancing the National Council of Negro Women's agenda in terms of developing model programs in the areas of teen parenting, eradicating hunger, and career education. Dr. Height has always advocated for the expansion of access and opportunities for poor and marginalized people everywhere.

In 1989, President Reagan recognized Dr. Height's contributions to society by awarding her the Citizens Medal award for distinguished service to the nation, and she has also earned more than 50 honors from local, state and national organizations. Her life is a living testimony to the quest for an equitable society for all.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1821, which awards the Congressional Gold Medal to Dr. Dorothy Height in recognition of her many outstanding and remarkable contributions to bettering this Nation.

Born in 1912 in Richmond, Virginia Dr. Dorothy Irene Height distinguished herself at an early age as a dedicated student with exceptional oratorical skills. As a young girl she fearlessly and vehemently stood up to the racist and sexist climate of the times. At the age of 25 she heeded the call of her mentor, Mary McLeod Bethune, founder of the National Council of Negro Women, and joined the struggle for women's full and equal employment and educational advancement. She has and continues to dedicate her life to the struggle for equality, social justice, and human rights for all peoples.

Mr. Speaker, throughout her illustrious career as a civil rights advocate, Dr. Height tirelessly worked to prevent lynching, encourage voter registration, desegregate the armed forces, reform the criminal justice system, and create equal access to public accommodations. Her public career spans nearly 65 years. She was a valued advisor to First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt and encouraged Presidents Eisenhower and Johnson to desegregate the Nation's public schools and to appoint African American women to sub-Cabinet positions. Since 1957 she has served as President of the National Council of Negro Women, an umbrella organization for 250 local groups and 38 national organizations dedicated to economic development and women's issues.

Mr. Speaker, the numerous awards and accolades Dr. Height has received over the years is a testimony to her invaluable contributions to the progress of this nation. The NAACP has awarded her The Spingarn Award, its highest honor. She is also the proud recipient of the John F. Kennedy Memorial Award from the National Council of Jewish Women; the Ministerial Interfaith Association Award; the Lovejoy Award; and the Congressional Black Caucus' William L. Dawson Award for her decades of public service to people of color and particularly women. However, Dr. Height is not one to rest on her laurels. She continues to lead the fight against social injustice and inequality and her profound love for and dedication to our youth is unmatched. As a direct link to the civil rights movement of the 1960s, Dr. Height continues to inspire future generations of civil rights activists.

Mr. Speaker, what else is truly remarkable about this grand dame is that at age 90 she does not plan on slowing down. And although she spends much of her time in a wheelchair, she continues to stand up for equality and social justice. I only hope and pray I have the same vigor and fight in me at that age.

Once again, I am proud to stand before this body in support of H.R. 1821. I want to thank my esteemed colleague from the state of California, the Honorable Diane Watson, for her leadership in sponsoring this important piece of legislation. I urge my colleagues to lend their support to this resolution and award Dr. Height our highest accolade.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, what an awesome privilege for me to have found myself in the presence of Dr. Dorothy Height—a brilliant woman, a woman of profound courage and insight—some of my living history as a woman, as person of African descent and as an American.

Mr. Speaker, by bestowing Dr. Height with a Congressional Gold Medal, we honor this body, and I am pleased to be part of this effort. Although Dr. Height is known most recently for her leadership role with the National Council of Negro Women, her life accomplishments exemplify her commitment for a better society for all individuals, especially for African-Americans.

Under the direction of Dr. Height, the National Council for Negro Women developed model programs on topics ranging from teenage parenting to eradicating hunger, and established the Bethune Museum and Archives for Black Women. The Bethune Museum is the first institution devoted to the history of

black women. Dr. Height founded the Center for Racial Justice, served as President of the National Council of Negro Women and the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, and held several leadership positions with the Young Women's Christian Association of America.

Beginning as a civil rights advocate in the 1930's, Dr. Height soon gained prominence through her tireless efforts to promote interracial schooling, to register and educate voters, and to increase the visibility and status of women in our society. Dr. Height's devotion and commitment to fight for social justice in this nation and throughout the world has been unaffected by time. She has been at the forefront of AIDS education, both nationally and internationally; under her direction, the National Council of Negro Women established offices in West Africa and South Africa and worked to improve the conditions of women in developing countries.

Dr. Dorothy Height's work represents the true meaning of public service. By awarding her with a Congressional Gold Medal, we honor a lasting legacy of public service that has been an invaluable to the progress of this Nation.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, Dr. Dorothy Height is a steadfast pioneer of women's rights and racial justice for people of color. She has set an example of what can be achieved through commitment and group activism.

As the fourth elected president of the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW), Height led a crusade for justice for Black women. To help strengthen the Black family, Height conceived of and organized the Black Family Reunion Celebration which has been held here in Washington, D.C. since 1986.

Under the leadership of Ms. Height, the NCNW achieved tax exempt status; raised funds from thousands of women in support of erecting a statue of Mary McLeod Bethune (NCNW's founder) in a federal park; developed several model programs to combat teenage pregnancy and address hunger in rural areas; and established the Bethune Museum and Archives for Black women, the first institution devoted to Black women's history. She has been instrumental in the initiation of NCNW sponsored food, childcare, housing and career educational programs.

No stranger to political activism, in the 1960's, Height called on NCNW to sponsor "Wednesdays in Mississippi" when interracial groups of women would help out at Freedom schools and conduct voter registration drives in the North and voter registration in the South. She worked with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Roy Wilkins to prevent lynching, desegregate the Armed Forces, reform the criminal justice system, and provide equal access to public accommodations.

Dr. Dorothy Irene Height has a long legacy as a leader in the struggle for equality and human rights. She through words and deeds have proven her distinguished service to humanity and her many contributions for equality, social justice and human rights for all peoples. She is to be commended for her efforts.

I encouraged all my colleagues to support H.R. 1828 to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Dr. Dorothy Height in recognition of her many contributions to the nation.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, thank you Congresswoman WATSON for bringing this resolution to the floor. I proudly stand here today to honor the extraordinary accomplishments of Dr. Dorothy Irene Height.

Dr. Height's diligent service over the past 65 years has improved the lives of countless people, not only in the United States, but across the globe. Her dedication to the promotion of civil rights, social justice, and equality make here a true inspiration and model leader.

Dr. Height worked passionately on African-American women's issues and HIV/AIDS issues, two of the primary issues that I strive to address in my work here in Congress. Dr. Height message resonates especially deep within my heart.

Through Dr. Height's work with the National Council of Negro Women and by acting as a consultant to Eleanor Roosevelt, Height was, and continues to be, instrumental in the advancement of civil rights in America.

As president of the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW) Height oversaw several programs which encouraged the empowerment of women throughout America. These programs included; Operation Woman Power, The Black Family Reunion, the Women's Center for Education and Career Advancement, and the Bethune Museum and Archives. In addition to programs that aid women in the U.S. Dr. Height continues to empower women internationally on HIV/AIDS issues throughout third world countries, specifically in West Africa and South Africa.

In addition to her contributions through the NCNW, Dr. Height's work with the Delta Sigma Theta sorority and the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) has increased citizen participation in government and furthered the status of at risk peoples.

Dr. Height's emphasis on the value of service is exemplified in her own words; "Without community service, we would not have a strong quality of life. It's important to the person who serves as well as the recipient. It's the way in which we ourselves grow and develop. . ." Dr. Height's worldview is one which we could all do well to adopt.

This Congressional medal will place Dr. Height's among the ranks of other celebrated leaders such as Mother Teresa of Calcutta, Lady Bird Johnson, and Rosa Parks, to name a few. Like her predecessors, Dr. Dorothy Height's exemplary leadership enhances the lives of all people throughout America and the world.

I thank my colleagues for this resolution and for their support.

Mr. WATT. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, I urge the passage of the bill, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PETRI). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. KING) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1821.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DEFENSE PRODUCTION ACT REAUTHORIZATION OF 2003

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 1680) to reauthorize the Defense Production Act of 1950, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 1680

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Defense Production Act Reauthorization of 2003".

SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF DEFENSE PRODUCTION ACT OF 1950.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The 1st sentence of section 717(a) of the Defense Production Act of 1950 (50 U.S.C. App. 2166(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking "sections 708" and inserting "sections 707, 708,"; and

(2) by striking "September 30, 2003" and inserting "September 30, 2008".

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 711(b) of the Defense Production Act of 1950 (50 U.S.C. App. 2161(b)) is amended by striking "through 2003" and inserting "through 2008".

SEC. 3. RESOURCE SHORTFALL AND RADIATION-HARDENED ELECTRONICS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding the limitation contained in section 303(a)(6)(C) of the Defense Production Act of 1950 (50 U.S.C. App. 2093(a)(6)(C)), the President may take actions under section 303 of the Defense Production Act of 1950 to correct the industrial resource shortfall for radiation-hardened electronics, to the extent that such Presidential actions do not cause the aggregate outstanding amount of all such actions to exceed \$200,000,000.

(b) REPORT BY THE SECRETARY.—Before the end of the 6-month period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit a report to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives describing—

(1) the current state of the domestic industrial base for radiation-hardened electronics;

(2) the projected requirements of the Department of Defense for radiation-hardened electronics;

(3) the intentions of the Department of Defense for the industrial base for radiation-hardened electronics; and

(4) the plans of the Department of Defense for use of providers of radiation-hardened electronics beyond the providers with which the Department had entered into contractual arrangements under the authority of the Defense Production Act of 1950, as of the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 4. CLARIFICATION OF PRESIDENTIAL AUTHORITY.

Subsection (a) of section 705 of the Defense Production Act of 1950 (50 U.S.C. App. 2155(a)) is amended by inserting after the end of the 1st sentence the following new sentence: "The authority of the President under this section includes the authority to obtain information in order to perform industry studies assessing the capabilities of the United States industrial base to support the national defense."

SEC. 5. CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION AND RESTORATION.

Section 702 of the Defense Production Act of 1950 (50 U.S.C. App. 2152) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (3) through (17) as paragraphs (4) through (18), respectively;

(2) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following new paragraph:

"(3) CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE.—The term 'critical infrastructure' means any systems and assets, whether physical or cyber-based, so vital to the United States that the degradation or destruction of such systems and assets would have a debilitating impact on national security, including, but not limited to, national economic security and national public health or safety."; and

(3) in paragraph (14) (as so redesignated by paragraph (1) of this section), by inserting "and critical infrastructure protection and restoration" before the period at the end of the last sentence.

SEC. 6. REPORT ON CONTRACTING WITH MINORITY- AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESSES.

(a) REPORT REQUIRED.—Before the end of the 1-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, this Secretary of Defense shall submit a report to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives on the extent to which contracts entered into during the fiscal year ending before the end of such 1-year period under the Defense Production Act of 1950 have been contracts with minority- and women-owned businesses.

(b) CONTENTS OF REPORT.—The report submitted under subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) The types of goods and services obtained under contracts with minority- and women-owned businesses under the Defense Production Act of 1950 in the fiscal year covered in the report.

(2) The dollar amounts of such contracts.

(3) The ethnicity of the majority owners of such minority- and women-owned businesses.

(4) A description of the types of barriers in the contracting process, such as requirements for security clearances, that limit contracting opportunities for minority- and women-owned businesses, together with such recommendations for legislative or administrative action as the Secretary of Defense may determine to be appropriate for increasing opportunities for contracting with minority- and women-owned businesses and removing barriers to such increase participation.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section, the terms "women-owned business" and "minority-owned business" have the meanings given such terms in section 21A(r) of the Federal Home Loan Bank Act, and the term "minority" has the meaning given such term in section 1204(c)(3) of the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989.

SEC. 7. REPORT ON IMPACT OF OFFSETS ON DOMESTIC CONTRACTORS AND HIGHER-TIER SUBCONTRACTORS.

(a) ASSESSMENT OF IMPACT REQUIRED.—In addition to the information required to be included in the annual report under section 309 of the Defense Production Act of 1950, the Secretary of Commerce shall assess the net impact, in the defense trade, of foreign sales and related foreign contracts that have been awarded through offsets, industrial participation agreements, or similar arrangements on domestic prime contractors and at least the first 3 tiers of domestic subcontractors during the 5-year period beginning on January 1, 1998.

(b) REPORT.—Before the end of the 1-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Commerce shall submit a report to the Congress containing findings and the conclusions of the Secretary with regard to the assessment made pursuant to subsection (a).

(c) COPIES OF REPORT.—Copies of the report prepared pursuant to subsection (b) shall also be transmitted to the United States